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## BOOK NOTICES.

*The Philippines. A Geographical Reader. By Samuel MacClintock. 105 pp., 4 maps, and many photographic reproductions. American Book Company, New York, 1903. (Price, 40c.)*

A collection of simply-told and interesting facts and descriptions relating to our new colony. The writer is the principal of the Normal School at Cebú, and his narrative gains vigour and freshness from the fact that he has seen much that he describes. In a short chapter on the present Government, Mr. MacClintock says:

The government of the Philippines aims to secure peace and protection for all the people. It has established an excellent common school system throughout the islands, so that every person who wants an education may have it. It is building roads and bridges to afford easy passage for people and goods from place to place. It is building telegraph lines and establishing post routes, that communication may be more rapid. It is dredging rivers, cleaning out harbors, and building breakwaters for the protection of commerce. All good citizens should aid the government in every way possible. Only by so doing can peace, and justice, and happiness be secured.

*Viertausend Kilometer im Ballon. By Herbert Silberer. 136 pp., and 28 illustrations from photographs. Otto Spamer, Leipzig, 1904.*

Mr. Silberer, whose father organized the balloon service in the Austria-Hungarian army, has had at his disposition two fine balloons owned by the Aero Club of Vienna. With one or two companions, and sometimes alone, he has made many ascents from Vienna, usually of short duration, though he has sometimes drifted into Hungary, and was once carried over the mountains of South Germany to the plains of Prussia. He has selected twenty-nine of these voyages, since October, 1899, for description in this volume, and has illustrated them with photographs taken from the balloon. This novel feature adds much to the interest of his aerial adventures.

The photographs were taken at altitudes of from less than 100 to 4,400 metres above the earth. Some pictures of parts of Vienna taken at low elevations might serve fairly well as street plans, and have the additional advantage of showing the façades of many scores of buildings and the general aspects of the city within the field of view. A number of views of villages, with their two or three winding streets, the little church surrounded by gravestones, the groves and streams and the patchwork of tilled lands on all sides are especially effective. A picture taken at about 600 metres